



REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-19 are pending in the application. Claims 1 and 3 are hereby amended. New claims 11-19 are added by this amendment. These amendments are supported by the specification and original claims as filed; no new matter has been added. Claim 1 and 11 are in independent form. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the instant application in view of the preceding amendments and the following remarks.

Rejections under 35 USC § 102

Claims 1, 3, 5, and 10 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), as being anticipated by Baba, et al. (US Patent No. 6,085,598). Applicants respectfully submit the cited reference fails to teach, disclose or suggest all of the limitations of the pending claims.

Applicants respectfully submit that the cited reference does not teach, disclose or suggest all the limitations recited in claim 1. Independent claim 1 as amended recites, "a pressure-sensitive section which includes a pressure sensitive chip and a stand supporting the pressure sensitive chip, said pressure sensitive section receives pressure and is mounted on said base...." The Examiner identifies Baba as disclosing a pressure responsive element (12) and a glass base (13). As amended, claim 1 requires a stand supporting the pressure sensitive chip, which comprises a pressure sensitive section that is mounted on the base. As applied by the Examiner, the Baba reference does not disclose a pressure sensitive chip that is supported by a stand because the pressure responsive element (12) is mounted on the glass base (13). Accordingly, Baba, does not disclose the claimed stand and Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

As an additional independent ground for overcoming the pending rejection, claim 1 recites, "wherein said pressure-sensitive section and said sensor package are affixed to said base by a fluoric elastomer." Baba does not disclose or suggest that the glass base is bonded to the "pressure sensitive section by a fluoric elastomer." Although Baba discloses a fluorine based adhesive, it does not describe the detail of a fluorine elastomer and it discloses the fluorine based adhesive as joining the glass base (13) to the stem (14). For this additional reason, claim 1 should be allowable.

With respect to claims 3 and 5, they each recite a resin with claim 5 additionally reciting, "the pressure sensor wherein said fluoric elastomer which affixes said pressure-sensitive section and said base is harder after solidification than said fluoric gel." The Examiner acknowledges Baba does not disclose the detail of the fluoric gel or the fluoric gel resin. Instead, the Examiner relies on Kato as allegedly disclosing this claim element. For these reasons, Applicant respectfully requests that the §102 rejections of claims 3 and 5 be withdrawn.

In addition, claims 3, 5, and 10, each depend either directly or indirectly from claim 1. They are therefore also patentably distinct from the cited references for at least the same reasons as presented with respect to claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this ground of rejection.

Rejections under 35 USC § 103

Claims 4-7 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as allegedly being obvious over Baba, et al. (US Patent No. 6,085,598) in view of Kato (JP06213742A). Applicants respectfully submit the combination of these cited references fails to teach, disclose or suggest each

of the limitations of the pending claims. Claims 4-7 each depend either directly or indirectly from claim 1. Accordingly, for at least the reasons stated above regarding claim 1, Applicants submit that the Baba fails to teach, disclose or suggest each of the limitations discussed above with respect to claim 1. Moreover, Kato also does not teach, disclose or suggest these limitations.

While the Office Action states that claims "8/1 and 9" (See Office Action page 5) have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), it appears that Examiner is rejecting claims 8 and 9 as allegedly being obvious by Baba, et al. (US Patent No. 6,085,598) in view of Nomura et al. (US Patent No. 5,948,991). Applicants submit that since claims 8 and 9 each depend either directly or indirectly from claim 1, they are also patentably distinct from the cited references for at least the same reasons as presented with respect to claim 1. Moreover, Monura also does not teach, disclose or suggest these limitations.

Based on the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of these grounds of rejection. Since Applicants' current remarks overcome the pending rejections, Applicants reserve the right to provide additional bases for overcoming the Examiner's rejections based on the cited prior art.

CONCLUSION

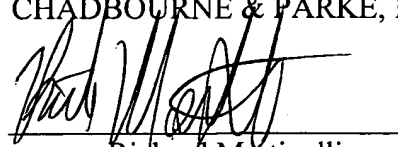
Applicants submit the claimed invention recited in independent claim 1 is clearly patentably distinct from the cited references, taken alone or in combination for at least the reason, discussed above, among others. Furthermore, in view of the fact that independent claim 1 is distinguishable from the cited references, Applicants submit that the dependent claims 3-10 of the instant application are also distinguishable for at least similar reasons. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 1 and 3-10 are patentably distinct from the cited reference and therefore, request withdrawal of this ground of rejections.

AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for consideration of this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 03-1240, Order No. 14998-270. In the event that an additional extension of time is required, or which may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to Deposit Account No. 03-1240, Order No. 14998-270.

Respectfully Submitted,
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Date: June 16, 2006

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